

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (withdrawn): A method of inducing paraptotic cell death in a cell comprising contacting said cell with an effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of ceramide, Tumor Necrosis Factor (TNF), caspase-7, caspase-8,  $\alpha$ -amino-3-hydroxy-5-methyl-4-isoxazole proprionic acid (AMPA), kainic acid and glutamic acid, wherein said effective amount of said compound induces paraptotic death of said cell.

Claim 2 (withdrawn): The method of claim 1, wherein said paraptotic cell death is induced in a mammal.

Claim 3 (withdrawn): The method of claim 2, wherein said mammal is a human.

Claim 4 (currently amended): A method of inhibiting paraptotic cell death in a mammalian neural cell comprising contacting said cell with an effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of Alg-2-interacting protein 1 (AIP-1), Jun N-terminal kinase 1 (JNK1) neutralizing agent, Jun N-terminal kinase 2 (JNK2) neutralizing agent, TNF Receptor-Associated Factor 2 (TRAF2) neutralizing agent, ortho-phenanthroline and the JNK inhibitor SP 600125, wherein said effective amount of said compound inhibits paraptotic death of said neural cell.

Claim 5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (currently amended): The method of claim ~~[[5]]~~ 4, wherein said ~~mammal~~ cell is a human cell.

Claim 7 (withdrawn): A method of treating a condition associated with excessive cell accumulation comprising administering to a subject in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of ceramide, Tumor Necrosis Factor (TNF), caspase-7, caspase-8,  $\alpha$ -amino-3-hydroxy-5-methyl-4-isoxazole proprionic acid (AMPA), kainic

acid and glutamic acid, wherein said effective amount of said compound induces paraptotic cell death.

Claim 8 (withdrawn): The method of claim 7, wherein said compound is part of a combination therapy that further comprises an effective amount of a compound known to induce apoptotic cell death.

Claim 9 (withdrawn): The method of claim 7 or 8, wherein said condition is a neoplastic condition.

Claim 10 (withdrawn): The method of claim 7 or 8, wherein said condition is an autoimmune condition.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A method of treating a neurodegenerative or ischemic condition associated with excessive cell death comprising administering to a subject in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of Alg-2-interacting protein 1 (AIP-1), Jun N-terminal kinase 1 (JNK1) neutralizing agent, Jun N-terminal kinase 2 (JNK2) neutralizing agent, TNF Receptor-Associated Factor 2 (TRAF2) neutralizing agent, ortho-phenanthroline and the JNK inhibitor SP 600125, wherein said effective amount of said compound inhibits paraptotic cell death.

Claim 12 (original): The method of claim 11, wherein said compound is part of a combination therapy that further comprises an effective amount of a compound known to inhibit apoptotic cell death.

Claim 13 (original): The method of claim 11 or 12, wherein said condition is an ischemic condition.

Claim 14 (original): The method of claim 13, wherein said ischemic condition is a stroke.

Claim 15 (original): The method of claim 13, wherein said ischemic condition is a myocardial infarction.

Claim 16 (original): The method of claim 11 or 12, wherein said condition is a neurodegenerative condition.

Claim 17 (new): The method of claim 16 wherein the neurodegenerative condition is selected from the group consisting of retinal degeneration, Huntington's disease, Parkinson's disease and Alzheimer's disease.